

MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Supervisor Sequanna Taylor - Ist Vice Chair, District 5

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, November 9, 2023

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Supervisor Taylor Applauds Support for "Birth to 3" Program in 2024 Budget

MILWAUKEE – Today, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors voted [17-1] to approve <u>Amendment 38</u> to the 2024 Budget, which increases expenditures for the Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) Birth to 3 Program funding. The author of the amendment, Supervisor Sequanna Taylor, issued the following statement:

"I am extremely grateful to my colleagues on the County Board for their support of additional DHHS funding for the Birth to 3 Program. Targeted interventions during these early, critical years help set children up for a more successful and brighter future. Investing in the well-being of our children is vital for the overall health and prosperity of the community at large. Prioritizing the welfare of the next generation benefits all of us."

The Birth to 3 Program supports children aged birth to 3 years old who are suspected of having developmental delays that may indicate the need for early intervention services. This amendment provides a one-time appropriation of \$250,000 to supplement current reimbursements to the three remaining local providers.

These dollars will help bridge the funding gap local providers are faced with due to the surging demand for early intervention services locally and the reduction in available federal funding. By allocating this additional funding, the Department of Health and Human Services is better equipped to continue serving the growing number of children and families who rely on the Birth to 3 Program.

The final Adopted Budget will go to County Executive Crowley's desk for approval. If the County Executive issues any vetoes, the Board will convene on Thursday, November 16 at 1:30 p.m.